

# WANTED WEEDS

Some common invasive plants along shorelines and riparian areas



**Invasive Ivy**  
(*Hedera* spp)



**Knotweed**  
(*Polygonum* spp)



**Scotch Broom**  
(*Cytisus scoparius*)



**Reed Canarygrass**  
(*Phalaris arundinacea*)



**Buttercup**  
(*Ranunculaceae*)



**Horsetail**  
(*Equisetum* spp)



**Yellow Flag Iris**  
(*Iris pseudocorus*)



**Purple Loosestrife**  
(*Lythrum salicaria*)



**Bittersweet Nightshade**  
(*Solanum dulcamara*)



**Thistles**  
(*Cirsium* spp)



**Blackberry**  
(*Rubus* spp)



**Bindweed**  
(*Calystegia sepium* &  
*Convolvulus arvensis*)



**Perennial Sweet Pea**  
(*Lathyrus latifolius*)



**Poison hemlock**  
(*Conium maculatum*)

# WEED CONTROL

The KEY to

## SHORLINE RESTORATION



Restored  
shoreline with  
native plants

**Maintenance and restoration of shoreline vegetation allows native-plants to fill in the shoreline and will increase biodiversity, wildlife habitat and protect property values.**

**Benefits of a shoreline buffer include:**

- Buffers prevent soil erosion - Lawn grass (bluegrass) and weeds cannot protect soil as well as native shrubs and plants can.
- Buffers keep fertilizer, driveway runoff, soils and other excess nutrients from washing directly into the water body. A good buffer can remove as much as 70-95% of incoming nutrients and other pollutants from the runoff into a water body.
- Trees in a buffer shade the shoreline and cool the water. Cooler water keeps fish eggs from overheating and reduces algae growth.
- Buffers reduce the number of mosquitoes. Vegetated buffers provide resting or feeding areas for mosquito predators, such as dragonflies and bats.
- Buffers reduce the number of Canada Geese on your lawn. Canada Geese are generally reluctant to walk through tall vegetation, so developing a shoreline buffer is a natural way to reduce their presence on lawns.
- Natural shorelines are more aesthetically pleasing and less work in the long run.

**Shoreline restoration should be done in steps. Each step has its own challenges but the rewards of the hard work is a healthy environmentally friendly shoreline.**

**Asses the area:**



Note your soil types, slope severity and plant inventory



Create maps of current vegetation, documenting weeds and native plants



Create a map of your vision for the final product

**Set Goals:**



Select a manageable area for restoration



Create a detailed list of work to be done in your selected area



Group jobs into phases for weed removal, planting, maintenance, etc.



Select native plants for your site

**Create a management plan:**



Combine your assessment of the area with your goals and create a timeline



Note how you will finance each phase of your project



Know who will assist you in the project with weed removal and replanting



Make sure to include a maintenance schedule

The key to good management and effective restoration is weed removal. Invasive weeds must be properly removed and new weed infestations should be prevented.

## **NOXIOUS WEED CONTROL**

Complete removal may be feasible early in an invasion or in a small area. Control of established infestations will take multiple years of integrated management.

A site specific method should be created using Integrated Pest Management (IPM) combining the following control methods.

Mechanical control (physically removing the invasive species, Pulling, mowing etc.) is often successful, but can be expensive and labor intensive. Control must be repeated often during the growing seasons.

Cultural control (manipulating environmental factors such as fire, mulching, fabrics) can provide some native species an edge in competing with invasive species.

Chemical control can be effectively used to kill invasive species. You should always Read the Label before use.

Restoration (revegetating) you must provide vegetative competition to fill the void left by the noxious weeds. Use native plants where appropriate and maintain the site for a number of years following treatments.

**Noxious Weed Control can take multiple years of integrated management. Contact your local weed control board for weed specific recommendations.**